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**Information On  
Drivers License  
Revocations and  
Suspensions**

# INTRODUCTION

Driving in Illinois is not a right but a privilege that you earn by obeying the rules of the road. Your Illinois drivers license is the physical symbol of your driving privileges. Your driving record and the status of your license—valid, suspended or revoked—are kept by the Office of the Secretary of State in Springfield.

It is the responsibility of the Office of the Secretary of State to assure that only safe, responsible, qualified drivers are permitted to operate a vehicle on Illinois highways. For this reason, drivers convicted of serious traffic offenses lose their driving privileges temporarily or permanently.

This brochure explains the circumstances which may cause you to lose driving privileges and what you must do to have them returned. It also explains whether you qualify for temporary driving privileges for work-related driving.

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

### **1. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A DRIVERS LICENSE SUSPENSION AND A REVOCATION?**

If your drivers license has been revoked, you have indefinitely lost driving privileges. The earliest date you may apply for the return of driving privileges is one year<sup>1</sup> from the date of the revocation.

A drivers license suspension is usually for a definite period of time. At the end of that time, the suspension is automatically ended and driving privileges are returned.

If your driving privileges have been revoked or suspended, that fact will be recorded on your driving record in Springfield. You are prohibited from driving, even though you have not returned your drivers license to the Secretary of State's office.



## 2. HOW LONG WILL I LOSE MY DRIVING PRIVILEGES?

The length of a drivers license suspension is set by established laws and rules and varies depending on the violation for which the license was suspended.

A drivers license revocation may be permanent. The earliest date you may apply for a new drivers license is one year from the date of revocation. Following a **second** and **subsequent** conviction for driving under the influence (DUI) of alcohol and/or other drugs, you will not be considered for reinstatement of full driving privileges for a minimum of five years from the date of the last revocation.



### 3. WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I DRIVE ON A REVOKED OR SUSPENDED LICENSE?

Any police officer will be able to determine whether your license is valid. If you are convicted of driving on a revoked or suspended license or of any other traffic offense, you will lose driving privileges for an additional period of time.

If you are convicted of driving on a revoked license following conviction for driving under the influence, reckless homicide or leaving the scene of a personal injury or fatal accident, the penalty is mandatory imprisonment for seven days or 30 days public service work.

### 4. WHAT IS A RESTRICTED DRIVING PERMIT?

If your driving privileges are revoked or suspended, you may apply for a restricted driving permit (RDP). An RDP allows driving to and from work and necessary on-the-job driving if an **undue hardship** is shown and problems related to the cause of your suspension/revocation have been resolved.

Contact your nearest drivers license facility for instructions on how to apply for an RDP.

### 5. HOW DO I GET A NEW DRIVERS LICENSE FOLLOWING REVOCATION?

Your application for a new drivers license must be reviewed by the Department of Administrative Hearings. Your local drivers license facility can provide information on the facilities that have hearing officers.

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# DUI

There are special requirements if you have lost driving privileges for driving under the influence (DUI) or other alcohol-related offenses. You must:

- Undergo an alcohol and/or drug evaluation, which will determine whether you have an abuse problem and will recommend appropriate action.
- Successfully complete all recommended treatment or an alcohol and drug remedial education program.

## PENALTIES FOR ALCOHOL-RELATED TRAFFIC OFFENSES

### DUI – First Conviction

- Loss of drivers license for a minimum of one year.
- Possible imprisonment for up to one year.
- Maximum fine of \$1,000.

### DUI – Second or Subsequent Conviction

- Loss of full driving privileges for a minimum of five years.
- Mandatory 48 hours in jail or 10 days community service for the second conviction in a five-year period.
- Possible imprisonment for up to one year.
- Maximum fine of \$1,000.

### Implied Consent

- Refusal to submit to a chemical test can result in a six-month drivers license suspension.
- Second or subsequent refusal to submit to a chemical test within five years can result in a one-year suspension.

### Illegal Transportation of an Alcoholic Beverage

- Maximum fine of \$500.
- A point assigned violation will be entered on the driver's record.

### Driving on a Suspended or Revoked License

- Extension of drivers license suspension or revocation period.
- Maximum fine of \$1,000.
- Mandatory seven days jail or 30 days community service if revocation was for DUI, leaving the scene of an accident with personal injury or fatality, or reckless homicide.
- Possible imprisonment for up to one year.

CONTACT THE NEAREST HEARING OFFICER TO DETERMINE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR YOUR PARTICULAR CASE. PLEASE CALL THE DRIVERS LICENSE FACILITY OF YOUR CHOICE BETWEEN 8:30 A.M. AND 4 P.M. TO CONFIRM THE AVAILABILITY OF THE HEARING OFFICER.

FULL-TIME HEARING OFFICERS ARE CURRENTLY LOCATED AT THE FOLLOWING FACILITIES:

FACILITY LOCATION	TELEPHONE NUMBER
Belleville	618 – 234-2315
Centralia	618 – 532-1551
Champaign	217 – 333-5729
* Chicago Heights	312 – 481-4310
* Chicago North	312 – 794-5800
* Chicago South	312 – 995-2633
* Chicago West	312 – 854-4800
East St. Louis	618 – 397-9488
Elgin	312 – 697-2100
Joliet	815 – 725-5262
LaSalle	815 – 223-4861
Lombard	312 – 629-0380
Mattoon	217 – 234-4040
Midlothian	312 – 388-4466
Peoria	309 – 686-6040
Quincy	217 – 222-4550
Rockford	815 – 987-7383
Rock Island	309 – 794-0276
* Schaumburg	312 – 843-1450
Springfield	217 – 782-4850

HEARING OFFICERS ARE AVAILABLE PART-TIME AT THE FOLLOWING FACILITIES. (THIS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.)

FACILITY LOCATION	TELEPHONE NUMBER
Anna	618 – 833-8234
Carbondale	618 – 457-0488
Decatur	217 – 875-1650
Effingham	217 – 347-7728
Galesburg	309 – 342-1154
Harrisburg	618 – 253-7976
Hillside	312 – 449-1616
Libertyville	312 – 362-7171
Macomb	309 – 833-2790
Marion	618 – 993-2587
Mt. Vernon	618 – 244-1183
Princeton	815 – 875-2617
Vandalia	618 – 283-2262
Waukegan	312 – 662-7171
Woodstock	815 – 338-3109



\* These facilities are open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Wednesdays from noon until 8 p.m.